

## Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NASA-01 SY-05 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

CPR-01 L-03 FBIE-00 DODE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01

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DRAFTED BY EUR;SOV;LWILLEMS:A/SY:EHICKEY;EUR;SOV;SHUMPHREY  
APPROVED BY EUR;SOV;MGARRISON  
NASA - BZOOK

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P R 190012Z OCT 76  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY  
INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ASEC, PFOR, TSPA, UR, US

SUBJECT: ROBBERY OF ACADEMICIAN PETROV

REF: A. MOSCOW 16315; B. MOSCOW 15087

1. LOS ANGELES SY OFFICE REPORTED ACADEMICIAN BORIS PETROV  
AND VASILII SARYECHEV WERE VICTIMS OF ARMED ROBBERY AT  
APPROXIMATELY 9 P.M. OCTOBER 14 IN ELEVATOR FOYER OF HOWARD  
JOHNSON'S MOTEL, ANAHEIM, WHERE THEY WERE ATTENDING INTER-  
NATIONAL ASTRONAUTICAL FEDERATION CONGRESS. ROBBER, WHITE  
MALE APPROXIMATELY AGED 25, APPEARED TO BE AMERICAN. HE  
APPROACHED VICTIMS AS THEY WERE AWAITING ELEVATOR, AND ASKED  
IF THEY SPOKE ENGLISH. WHEN SOVIETS REPLIED AFFIRMATIVELY,  
ROBBER DISPLAYED A REVOLVER AND DEMANDED MONEY. PETROV  
WAS ROBBED OF 18 DOLLARS AND SARYECHEV OF 20 DOLLARS.  
SHORTLY AFTER MONEY HAD BEEN SURRENDERED TO ROBBER, OTHER  
SOVIETS ENTERED THE ELEVATOR FOYER AND PUSHED THE BUTTON  
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FOR AN ELEVATOR. WHEN ELEVATOR DOORS OPENED, ALL BUT THE

ROBBER ENTERED, AND HE APPARENTLY FLED. UPON REACHING THEIR ROOMS, THE SOVIETS NOTIFIED THE MOTEL MANAGEMENT AND THE POLICE WERE NOTIFIED. ANAHEIM POLICE RESPONDED AND TOOK A COMPLETE REPORT.

2. AT SUBSEQUENT REQUEST OF DEPARTMENT OF STATE, ANAHEIM POLICE STATIONED A UNIFORMED OFFICER AT MOTEL UNTIL OCT 17, WHEN ACADEMICIAN PETROV TRAVELLED TO WASHINGTON, DC TO JOIN A SOVIET DELEGATION ARRIVING THE SAME DAY FROM THE USSR FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH NASA OF POSSIBLE FUTURE JOINT SPACE PROJECTS. NASA OFFICIALS WHO MET PETROV IN WASHINGTON NOTED THAT HE APPEARED TO BE TAKING THE ROBBERY IN STRIDE. PETROV WILL RETURN TO THE USSR ON EITHER OCTOBER 24 OR 26. SARYECHEV WILL NOT PARTICIPATE IN NASA TALKS AND WILL DEPART FOR THE USSR ON OCTOBER 20. KISSINGER

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## Message Attributes

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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** CunninFX  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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